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NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY ANTI-TERRORISM SUMMARY



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

(North Dakota) Minot Bomb Squad Investigates Threat. Minot Bomb Squad technicians were called to a local threat this afternoon. CVS Pharmacy contacted Minot Police Department just before 3:00 about a phoned in bomb threat in the CVS parking lot. <http://www.kxnet.com/story/27674955/minot-bomb-squad-investigates-threat>

(North Dakota) North Dakota fines company \$687,000 for disposal violations. North Dakota regulators assessed a \$687,000 fine Wednesday against Springville, Utah-based Redemption Energy LLC. for violating saltwater waste disposal rules. http://bismarcktribune.com/bakken/north-dakota-fines-company-for-disposal-violations/article_ba423436-862c-11e4-84ef-431219ee38fa.html

(North Dakota) Rebuilding North Dakota - The planes, pipes and pads of 2014. It was another banner year for the Bakken and future of North Dakota. Record investments into communities on the decline, new hospitals, schools, roads, restaurants and other quality of life services are popping up more and more. http://bismarcktribune.com/bakken/breakout/rebuilding-north-dakota---the-planes-pipes-and-pads/article_c0a0058e-846e-11e4-b00e-830d875ab36a.html

(North Dakota) Emergency manager calls for safety review Bakken highway. McKenzie County Emergency Manager Karol Rockvov is asking the state Department of Transportation for a safety review of the new stretch of four lanes of Highway 85 from Watford City and past Alexander. http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/emergency-manager-calls-for-safety-review-bakken-highway/article_090c65b7-4ba2-5311-85e0-aaf37054899d.html#ixzz3Mf3KQ02p

REGIONAL

(South Dakota) Grain bin collapses at Britton elevator. Authorities are investigating after a 40,000-bushel grain bin at the Wheaton Dumont Co-Op elevator in Britton, South Dakota, collapsed December 14. The collapse damaged about 20,000 bushels of grain and destroyed conveyors and other overhead equipment. <http://www.argusleader.com/story/news/crime/2014/12/15/grain-bin-collapses-britton-elevator/20428503/>

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(Minnesota) 7,500 turkeys lost in fire in Lorain Township. A December 16 fire at the Meyer Turkey Farm in Lorain Township engulfed a barn and killed about 7,500 turkeys housed in the structure. Authorities are investigating the blaze that is believed to be electrical in nature. <http://kwoa.com/news/2014/12/16/7500-turkeys-lost-fire-lorain-township>

(Minnesota) Dangerous chemical leak under investigation. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture is investigating after about 9,000 gallons of anhydrous ammonia leaked at the Watonwan Farm Service-owned Clarks Grove Fertilizer facility in Freeborn County December 15 prompting the evacuation of 15 nearby homes. The leak was contained and one firefighter was treated at the scene for inhalation issues. <http://www.kaaltv.com/article/stories/s3650486.shtml>

NATIONAL

(National) Police departments on alert after cop killings. Big-city police departments and union leaders around the country are warning the rank and file to wear bulletproof vests and avoid making inflammatory posts on social media in the days after a man ambushed two officers and shot them to death inside their patrol car. <http://www.breitbart.com/news/police-departments-on-alert-after-cop-killings/>

(National) NYC premiere of "The Interview" canceled amid terrorist threat. Landmark's Sunshine Cinemas canceled the company's December 17 premiere of a Sony Pictures' film at the Lower East Side movie house in New York City while Carmike Cinemas announced the cancellation of its scheduled showings of the film at 247 theaters nationwide as well as Bow Tie Cinemas amid threats of violence by a group dubbed Guardians of Peace against movie theaters that show the movie. The Department of Homeland Security is analyzing the threats but reported that there was no credible intelligence to indicate an active plot against movie theaters. <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/NYC-Premiere-of-The-Interview-Canceled-Amid-Terrorist-Threats-286064901.html>

(National) New York man pleads guilty to fake anthrax, ricin attacks. A Cicero, New York man pleaded guilty to 2 federal counts of conveying false information and hoaxes December 13 for mailing 20 death-threat letters laced with harmless

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white powder claimed to be either anthrax or ricin to schools, U.S. officials and lawmakers between 1997 and 2012.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/12/13/us-usa-new-york-crime-idUSKBN0JR04720141213>

(National) 'Security by antiquity' bricks payment terminals. Equinox Payments officials reported that U.S. retailers using certain models of its Hypercom credit card payment terminals experienced an outage December 7 when a security mechanism was triggered by the expiration of the products' cryptographic certificates that were assigned a 10 year expiry date in 2004. Company officials are working to replace the certificates and return thousands of the bricked terminals to an operational state. <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2014/12/security-by-antiquity-bricks-payment-terminals/>

INTERNATIONAL

(International) N. Korea threatens strikes on US amid hacking claims. N. Korea threats come amid the U.S. blaming North Korea for the cyberattack that escalated to threats of terror attacks against U.S. movie theaters and caused Sony to cancel "The Interview's" release.

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/AS_NKOREA_SONY_HACKING?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-12-21-21-44-06

(International) Backdoor found in Android phones manufactured by Coolpad: Research. Researchers with Palo Alto Networks reported that at least 24 models of Android devices manufactured by Coolpad contained a backdoor that could active applications, install unwanted applications, and upload device information and location data. <http://www.securityweek.com/backdoor-found-android-phones-manufactured-coolpad-research>

(International) Cuba releases American Alan Gross, paves way for historic easing of American sanctions. U.S. contractor Alan Gross, held by the Cuban government since 2009, was freed Wednesday as part of a landmark deal with Cuba that paves the way for a major overhaul in U.S. policy toward the island, senior administration officials tell CNN.

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/12/17/politics/cuba-alan-gross-deal/>

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BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

(International) New Zeus variant targets users of 150 banks. Researchers with Kaspersky Lab identified a new variant of the Zeus banking and information-stealing malware known as Chthonic that is targeting customers of 150 banks and 20 payment systems in the U.S. and 14 other countries. Chthonic shares several components with other forms of malware and is delivered by spam emails or through downloader malware already present on victims' computers.

http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2934

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(Wisconsin) Dozens sickened by carbon monoxide at Lake Delton ice rink. At least 81 individuals at the Poppy Waterman Ice Arena in Lake Delton were treated for symptoms related to carbon monoxide exposure December 13 due to a leak that was discovered coming from one of the rink's propane-fueled resurfacing machines. Authorities are investigating the incident and an inspection of the equipment was scheduled. <http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/dozens-reportedly-sickened-by-carbon-monoxide-at-lake-delton-ice-rink-b99408550z1-285749581.html>

(Illinois) Chicago thieves adopt 'crash-and-grab' tactics for brazen, tightly choreographed burglaries. Authorities are investigating at least 12 "crash-and-grab" burglaries that have occurred at retail businesses in the Chicago area since September where thieves would crash a vehicle through a storefront and then quickly steal merchandise before they fleeing the scene in a waiting getaway car. <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2014/12/15/chicago-thieves-adopt-crash-and-grab-tactics-for-brazen-tightly-choreographed/>

(Washington) Amazon evacuates Seattle office after threatening note found. The Amazon.com Inc. headquarters in Seattle was evacuated and employees were sent home as a precaution December 15 after a threatening note was found in a bathroom within the office building. Police investigated and cleared the scene

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after finding that no threat existed. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-12-15/amazon-evacuates-seattle-headquarters-after-threat-police-say.html>

(National) Bomb threats evacuate Walmarts. At least 10 Walmart stores across the southeast region of the U.S., including several Georgia stores, were evacuated while police investigated a string of bomb threats that were phoned into police December 17. http://www.valdostadailytimes.com/news/local_news/bomb-threats-evacuate-walmarts/article_4b2abad8-865d-11e4-a913-7701115a194b.html

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

(National) Mazda recalls 330,000 vehicles for driver-side air bags. Mazda Motor Co. announced December 12 that it was expanding its recall for vehicles equipped with airbag inflators manufactured by Takata to include 330,000-model year 2004-2008 Mazda6 and RX-8 vehicles nationwide. The airbag inflators can send metal fragments into the passenger cabin upon inflation, posing a threat to occupants.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/foreign/2014/12/12/mazda-recalls-vehicles-driver-side-air-bags/20294363/>

DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(Minnesota) Officer convicted of using fake ID to wire money. A St. Paul Police Department officer was convicted of felony electronic identity theft in Ramsey County District Court December 12 for using a fake identity to wire \$1,500 to a her gang-member boyfriend in prison. Source:

<http://www.faribaultcountyregister.com/page/content.detail/id/757167/Officer-convicted-of-using-fake-ID-to-wire-money.html?isap=1&nav=5050>

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(Wisconsin) 9-1-1 service interrupted by cut fiber optic line. Emergency 9-1-1 service and high speed internet service was disrupted in parts of Columbia, Juneau, Adams, and Marquette counties December 18 after a Frontier Communications fiber optic line was inadvertently cut by a third party contractor. Crews repaired the severed line and service was restored about 7 hours later. <http://wsau.com/news/articles/2014/dec/19/9-1-1-service-interrupted-by-cut-fiber-optic-line/>

ENERGY

(Washington) Copper thief cuts power to 2,000 after damaging Clallam Public Utility District substation west of Port Angeles. Copper thieves damaged three voltage regulators and knocked out power to about 2,000 residents in the Elwha Valley for nearly 12 hours December 13. Estimated damages totaled \$120,000. <http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20141214/news/312149959/copper-thief-cuts-power-to-2000-after-damaging-clallam-public>

(National) Emerson patches series of flaws in controllers used in oil and gas pipelines. Researchers identified and reported several vulnerabilities in Emerson Process Management's ROC800 remote terminal units (RTU) widely used in oil and gas pipelines and other applications, and has issued patches for all vulnerabilities except for an authentication bypass issue. The company recommends that customers install a secure router in front of the vulnerable products to mitigate this vulnerability. <http://threatpost.com/emerson-patches-series-of-flaws-in-controllers-used-in-oil-and-gas-pipelines/109985>

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Nothing Significant to Report

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(National) Files of more than 40,000 federal workers breached in cyberattack. The Office of Personnel Management alerted more than 40,000 federal employees nationwide that their personal information may have been exposed following a breach at federal contractor KeyPoint Government Solutions that was

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confirmed December 18. <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/files-of-more-than-40000-federal-workers-breached-in-cyberattack/>

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(International) SoakSoak malware campaign affects over 100,000 websites. A Sucuri researcher reported that malware delivered from the Russian Web site soaksoak.ru has affected over 100,000 WordPress Web sites adding a code that adds a malicious JavaScript on every page viewed on the affected sites. Google then blacklisted more than 11,000 domains connected to the malware.

<http://news.softpedia.com/news/SoakSoak-Malware-Campaign-Affects-Over-100-000-Websites-467506.shtml>

(International) Syrian Electronic Army hacks website of International Business Times. Hacktivists claiming affiliation with the Syrian Electronic Army group claimed responsibility for defacing the Web site of the International Business Times December 17. <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Syrian-Electronic-Army-Hacks-Website-of-International-Business-Times-467827.shtml>

(International) Critical flaw on over 12M routers allows device hijacking, network compromise. Check Point researchers identified a vulnerability in over 12 million routers dubbed “Fortune Cookie” caused by an error within the HTTP cookie management component that could be remotely exploited to cause the current session to be given administrative privileges by sending a packet to a user’s public IP address. The vulnerability was found in routers manufactured by TP-Link, Huawei, Zyxel, Netcomm, SmartAX, Edimax, and others. <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17776>

PUBLIC HEALTH

(Ohio) St. Rita Elementary School and University School Shaker Campus closed due to flu outbreak. St. Rita Elementary School in Solon and University School’s Shaker Heights campus were both closed December 10 due to a flu outbreak after students experienced symptoms of fever, nausea, and coughing. Classes at St. Rita Elementary School were scheduled to resume December 15.

<http://www.newsnet5.com/news/local-news/oh-cuyahoga/st-rita-elementary-school-closed-due-to-illness>

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(Illinois) Illinois hospital reports data blackmail. Clay County Hospital in Illinois notified affected patients after receiving an anonymous e-mail containing protected health information of some patients asking for a substantial payment to avoid patient data being released. Law enforcement agencies were notified and an investigation found the compromised data was limited to patients who visited the hospital on or before February 2012 and limited to name, physical address, social security numbers and date of birth.

<http://www.computerworld.com/article/2859026/illinois-hospital-reports-data-blackmail.html>

(National) 14 arrested, charged in meningitis outbreak. Two co-founders and 12 former employees of the New England Compounding Center, a compounding pharmacy in Framingham, Massachusetts, were arrested December 17 in connection to a 2012 fungal meningitis outbreak that killed 64 people and sickened more than 750 people in 20 States after receiving tainted steroids manufactured by the pharmacy. The indictments were unsealed in federal court in Boston December 17. <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/pharmacy-owners-arrested-12-meningitis-outbreak-27657190>

TRANSPORTATION

(Texas) Copper wire stolen. Two individuals were arrested December 10 for allegedly stealing up to \$20,000 worth of copper wire from a Union Pacific Railroad control station near Athens, Texas, causing up to \$100,000 in damage to transportation communications equipment or devices at the facility.

http://www.athensreview.com/news/local_news/copper-wire-stolen/article_8e3d5f12-8188-11e4-aabc-27921d33991d.html

WATER AND DAMS

Nothing Significant to Report

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **North Dakota State and Local**

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Intelligence Center: 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov; Fax: 701-328-8175 **State Radio:** 800-472-2121; **Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI):** 701-328-5500; **North Dakota Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455; **US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400; **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875; **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241.

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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